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University of Montana

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MEDIA RELEASE

September 26, 1986

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AND YOUNG ALUMNI AWARDS TO BE PRESENTED AT UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA HOMECOMING

Kathryn D. Hubbell, UM News and Publications

The Distinguished Alumnus Awards, presented annually to University of Montana graduates who "have brought honor to the University, the state or the nation," will be conferred upon two people, one posthumously, during UM's homecoming Oct. 2-4. In addition two Young Alumnus Awards, designed to honor alumni 35 or under for professional achievement or service to the university, will also be conferred. The awards will be presented during the traditional homecoming "Singing On The Steps" at 8 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 2, on the Main Hall steps.

The Distinguished Alumnus Awards will be given to Sterling "Jim" Soderlind, '50, Short Hills, N.J., Vice President of Planning for Dow Jones & Company, Inc.; and posthumously to William M. Allen, '22, retired chairman of Boeing Aircraft, who died last year at his home in Seattle.

The Young Alumnus Awards will be presented to Shelley A. Hopkins, '82, Butte, an attorney with Poore, Roth & Robinson, P.C.; and Nils A. Ribbi, '78, Hamilton, president, chief operating officer and director of Ribbi ImmunoChem Research, Inc.

Sterling Soderlind

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Soderlind is a 1950 graduate in journalism and currently serves as vice president/planning for Dow Jones & Company, Inc. He is a member of the Dow Jones management committee and a director of Richard D. Irwin, Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of Dow Jones that publishes college textbooks and business books.

Soderlind was born in Rapelje, Mont. After graduating from the University of Montana (then known as Montana State University), he was a Rhodes Scholar and attended Keble College at Oxford University where he studied philosophy, politics and economics.

Soderlind began his journalism career at the Minneapolis Tribune in 1952, also serving as a stringer for The Wall Street Journal. He joined the staff of the Journal full time as a reporter for the Chicago bureau in 1955, and became Southeast bureau chief in Florida the following year. In 1957 he transferred to New York where he held several editorial positions for the Journal.

Soderlind was named assistant to the president of Dow Jones in 1975 and vice president/planning in 1977.

Soderlind and his wife, the former Helen Edith Boyce, make their home in Short Hills, N.J. They have three children.

William M. Allen

Allen, who died in October, 1985 at the age of 85, graduated from UM in 1954 with a degree in economics and was awarded an

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honorary doctorate in 1954 by the university. He was the retired chairman of the Boeing Company in Seattle.

Allen was born in Lolo, and after graduating from UM received his law degree from Harvard University Law School. After graduation he moved to Seattle and joined the firm of Donworth, Todd and Higgins.

Early in his legal career, Allen was assigned to handle legal matters for The Boeing Company. When Boeing won the bid to establish a transcontinental air mail service, Allen drew up the legal papers creating an independent corporation, Boeing Air Transport, which eventually became United Airlines.

Allen became a director of Boeing in 1931, stepping into the presidency in 1945 after repeated requests from the company following the death of the former president. The day after he took office all of Boeing's military contracts were canceled and most of the employees were temporarily terminated. It was on this basis that Allen directed the company to put the Stratocruiser airliner into immediate production, carving out a commercial future for Boeing - and, with the subsequent development of the Boeing 707, paving the way for the company to lead the world's entrance into the commercial jet age.

Allen was equally well known for establishing standards of ethics and integrity in business that became widely respected. He believed the people at Boeing were the company's most important asset and knew many of the employees by name. Allen

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also contributed extensive time and involvement to community projects, including the organization of United Way.

Among the awards Allen received during his career were "Industrialist of the Year" by the National Society of Industrial Realtors, 1958; "Seattle First Citizen," 1954; and the Order of the Grizzly from UM in 1973. He was named to the all-time Hall of Fame for Business Leadership by Fortune magazine in 1975.

Mary Allen, his wife, will receive the Distinguished Award for William Allen during the presentations. Allen is also survived by two daughters, Nancy Silvernale of Kirkland and Dorothy Penrose of Seattle; and two stepchildren, Ellen Shattuck of Portland and James R. Agen of Burlington.

Shelley A. Hopkins

Hopkins is a 1982 graduate of UM's law school and a 1979 graduate of UM with a degree in political science. She is an attorney with the Butte firm of Poore, Roth & Robinson, P.C.

A native of Missoula, Hopkins was named Outstanding Senior Girl at Hellgate High School in 1969, and received a Board of Regents Honor Scholarship the same year. She also received a Watkin Scholarship in 1978 and was named one of the Outstanding Young Women of America in 1979. She was renominated for the latter award by Governor Schwinden in 1981.

Hopkins' record of service already compiles a long list. She has been a member of the Montana Board of Regents of Higher

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Education; on the Board of Directors for the Higher Education Student Assistance Corporation; has participated in Defense Department briefing for Montana on Salt II; and has held several positions of service at UM including the Academic Standards and Curriculum Review Committee, Academic Program Review Committee, Staff Senator and United Way.

Hopkins was appointed to the Public Land Law Review Editorial Staff for 1981-82 and has received the Governor's Citation for service to the State of Montana, 1980, and the University of Montana Alumni Award of Excellence for outstanding service to the university, community and state, 1979. In 1980 she received the Thomas E. Mulroney Scholarship, awarded for "demonstrating the traits of character and dedication to the ideals that have been the tradition of the legal profession."

Hopkins makes her home in Butte.

Nils A. Ribí

Ribi, a 1979 graduate in business, is president, chief operating officer and director of Ribí ImmunoChem Research, Inc., in Hamilton.

Ribi is a native of Hamilton. Following his graduation from UM he conducted graduate work in business at Eastern Washington University.

During his student days at UM, Ribí served as business manager of ASUM, lecture coordinator for ASUM, and coordinator

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for UM's skiing program. He was also on the Board of Directors for the UM Alumni Association, was a Central Board Delegate, and served on the Campus Development Committee.

Ribi has held positions as accounting manager for Bjornson-Cochrane, Inc. and as territory manager for Burroughs Corporation. He joined Ribi ImmunoChem Research in 1981 as business manager and has also been the company's vice president of finance and administration.

Ribi has been active in numerous civic and professional organizations including the Hamilton City-County Planning Board, the Montana Advisory Council on Science & Technology, the State Securities Task Force, the Mansfield Foundation and the Association of Biotechnology Companies.

He is married to Patricia Brolin-Ribi, also a UM alumnus who received her law degree in 1985. The Ribi's make their home in Hamilton.

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